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# BOROUGH of GODMANCHESTER

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH

AND

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

UPON THE

SANITARY CONDITIONS of the DISTRICT
DURING YEAR 1960



by

J. Caldwell L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P&S., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

Mr Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report of the Health and Sanitary conditions of the Borough for the year ended 31st December, 1960.

Some increase in the Birth Rate over last years figures is noted and the rate for the Borough continues to maintain a considerable lead over the National average.

Exactly the same number of Deaths took place in the Borough this year, as did in 1959 and consequently the Death Rate remains practically the same.

As in the neighbouring Borough of Huntingdon, the incidence of Notifiable Infectious Diseases this year was more than 50% less than in 1959, there being relatively fewer cases reported in both years.

Tenders were invited for the final extensions to the sewerage of the Borough to cater for those properties not initially included in the scheme.

Eight Council flats were completed during the year and by a system of exchanges it was possible to use six of these for Slum Clearance purposes.

Progress was made on the slum clearance programme - thirteen houses being demolished during the year. In addition a number of houses were improved by a system whereby two adjoining substandard dwellings were converted into one modern house.

Private development got well under way and a considerable number of dwellings were completed during the year.

In conclusions, I would like to thank all Members of the Council for their kindness during the past year, and all Officers for their kind help and co-operation.

I am.

Yours obedient Servant, J.Caldwell.

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#### SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA STATISTICS AND

Area Estimate Estimate Number of Rateable Value of	ed Popu of inha Value	lation bited	po		4,956 ac 2,680 2,680 822 25,363 £101.18s.	ees
		V	ITAL STATI	STICS		
Live Births Legitimate Illegitimate	<u>M</u> 23 3 -26	<u>F</u> 29 2	<u>Total</u> 52 5	1,000 e	irth Rate per stimated popula bility Factor ed Birth rate	tion 20.7 1.02
				per 1,00 populat:	00 esimated	20.9
Still Births	M	F	Total		Weit Ob)	
Legitimate Illegitimate	1	1	1	(Live &	r 1,000 total Still) births or England &	33.9
	1	1	2		Wales)	19.7

Deaths

(all ages)

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population 7.6 Comparability Factor .93 Corrected Death Rateper 1,000 estimated population 1,000 estimated population (Ditto England & Wales) 11.5

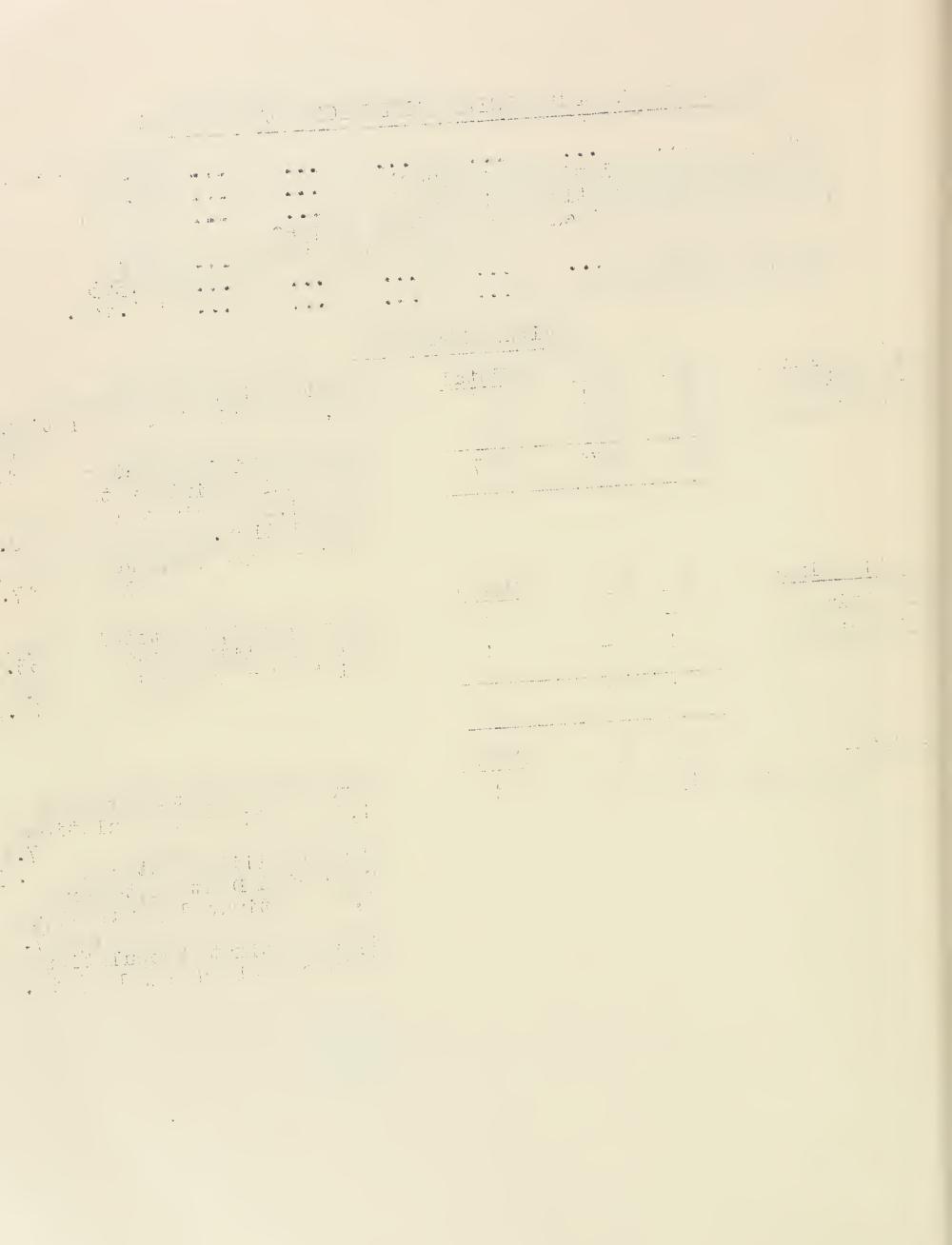
Total

21

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The following table indicates the trends in the Birth and Death Rate for the Borough over the past 5 years and compares them with those for the County of Huntingdon and for England and Wales. Birth Rate Death Rate

Total

1

	_			71000			20 0			
	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Godmanchester B	25.2	22.6	27.6	18.6	20.9	10.9	12.9	5.5	7.3	7.2
Huntingdonshire	18.5	20.3	19.8	19.6	19.7	10.2	10.2	10.1	10.1	10.6
England & Wales	15.7	16.11	16.4	16.5	17.1	11.7	11.5	11.7	11.6	11.5

legitimate

## Deaths of Infants under 1 year

illegitimate	Ones .	prod	Grand		
Total	1		1		
Death Rates of Infants under 1 year					
All infants per 1,000 live births .	• • •	• • •		• • • •	17.6
(Ditto for England and Wales	• • •	• • • •		• • •	21.7.

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## GODMANCHESTER BOROUGH

# Causes of Deaths

(Registrar General's List)

ist		Male	Female
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	Compt Survey Comment	1
2.	Tuberculosis, other	-	-
3.	Syphilitic disease	***	
4.	Diptheria	Burkel	-
5 **	Whooping Cough	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections	Germin	-
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	-	Street
7. 8.	Measles .	-	deserte
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	dimeda	-
10.	Malignant neoplasm, Stomach	pare	1
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	treat	-
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	need .	-
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	need .	
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	2	2
15.		nee	
16.			-
	Vascular lesions of nervous system	3	pio
	Coronary disease, angina	2	1
19.			Burd B
20.		1	Cross
	Other circulatory disease	7	(pure)
	Influenza	.1	_
	Pneumonia	1	7
	Bronchitis	 A	-
	Other diseases of respiratory system	1	_
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	0449	-
27.	,	200	9110
28.			_
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	_	_
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	_	and
31.	Congential malformations	1	1
32.	Other defined and ill-definded diseases	<u>.</u>	-
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	1	1
34.	All other accidents	_	gund
35. 36.	Suicide Homicide and operations of war	dense	динф
	Total	13	8

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#### TUBERCULOSIS

	Tot	tal number o	n Register	on 31st I	December,196	50	• • •	10
		Pulmonary	12	Non-Pi	ulmonary	3		
•	Age Periods	Respirator			New Respirator $\underline{M}$		Respirat	
	0			٠				
	1							
	5							
	10							
	15							
	20							
	25							
	35							
	45							
	55							
	65 and upwards							
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No action was found to be necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952, in connection with persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade, or under section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 which deals with the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

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#### CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

						tal Cases otified
Scarlet Fever	• • •	• • •	- • • •	•	• • •	treat
Whooping Cough				*	• • •	8
Diphtheria			) · • • •		• • •	~~
Measles	. • • •	• • •			• • •	5
Acute Pneumonia		• • •	- • • •	29 g	• • •	8
Puerperal Pyrexia		• • •	4	. ,	• • •	1
Tyhoid Fever		• • •	• • •		• • •	
Erysipelas		• • •	1 - • • •		• • •	1
Acute Poliomyeliti	S.,				• • •	-
Infective Hepatiti	S : • • •	• • •	• • •		• • •	6
Food Poisoning	. • • •	• • •	• • •	9*	• • •	1
Dysentery	- • • •		• • •		• • •	
				Τ	otal	30

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#### (a) Laboratory Facilities

The following Laboratory Facilities have been available to the Authority and to the General Practioners in the area:-

Public Health Laboratory Service, Tennis Court Road Cambridge (Tel: Cambridge 55526)

Public Analyst (S. Greenburgh, Ph.D., B.Sc., F.I.C.) Tennison Road, Cambridge (Tol: Cambridge 2097)

#### (b) Ambulance Services

Ambulances administered by the County Council Ambulance Service operating in conjunction with the County Fire Service have been available on doctor's orders. (Tel: Huntingdon 348)

#### (c) Home Nursing

A Nurse/Midwife residing in Godmanchester (Tel: Huntingdon 609 employed and supervised by the Huntingdon County Council carries out Home Nursing and attended Maternity cases in the Borough.

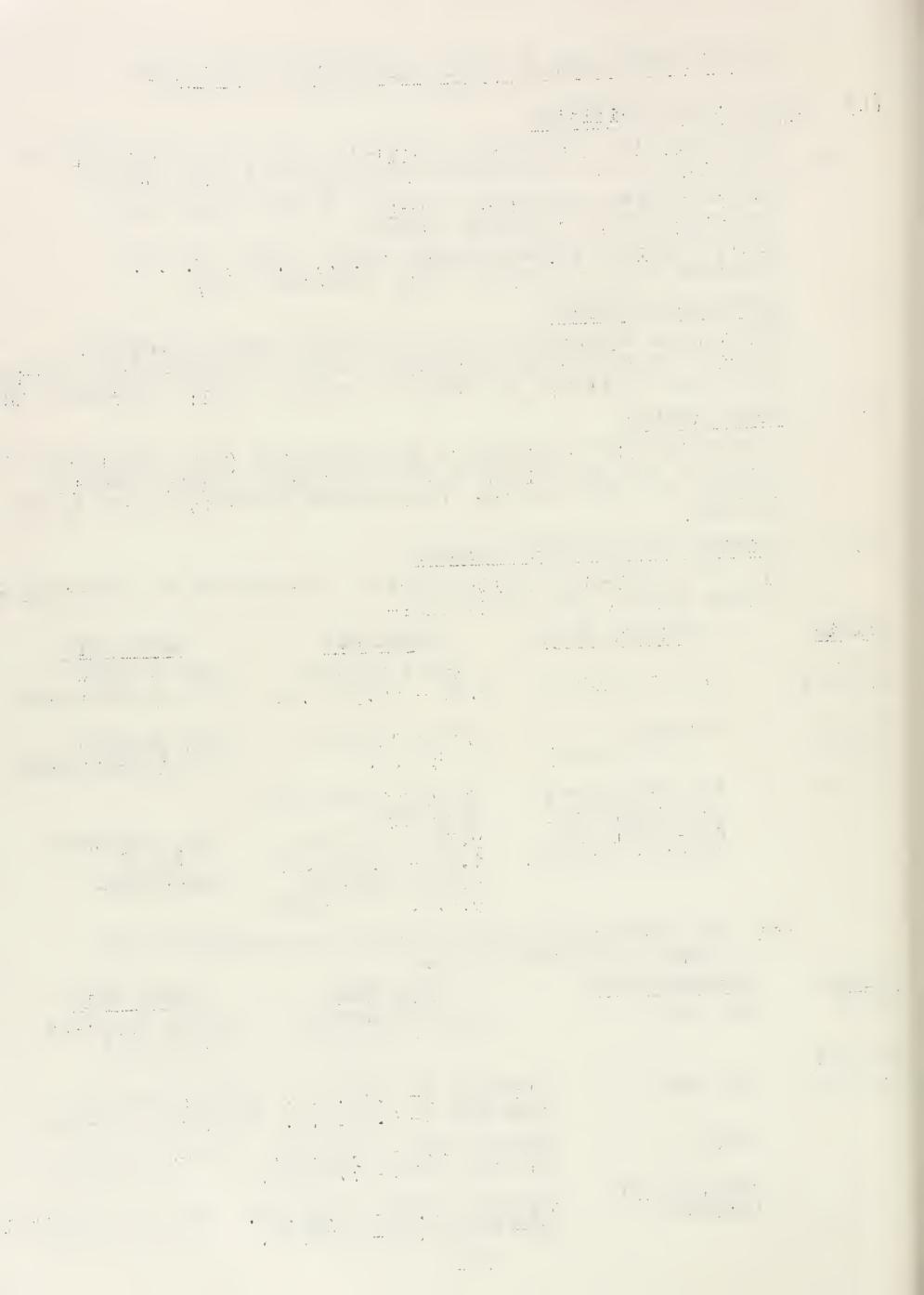
#### (d) Clinics and Treatment Centres

(i) The following Health Services provided by the Huntingdon County Council were available:-

Clinio	Patients Seen	When Held	Where Held
Minor Ailments	Schoolchildren	Every Monday 9.30 - 10.30 a.m.	Old Grammar School, Huntingdon
Infant Welfarc	Children (0-5 years)	Every Tuesday 2 - 4 p.m.	Old Grammer School, Huntingdon
Dontal	Pre-school and Schoolchildren Pre-natal and Nursing Mothers.	Every Tiesday and Thursday.  9.30 - 12 noon  1,30 - 4.30 p.m.  Every Saturday  9.a.m 12 noon	10a, Princess Street Huntingdon

(ii) The following Health Services are provided by the Regional Hospital Board.

Regionar nost	DIGIT DOGLA.	
Patients Seen	When Held	Where Hold
All ages	Every Thursday 10 - 12 noon	County Hospital Huntingdon
All ages	Tuesday 3-6.30.p.m. Thursday 4-6.30.p.m.	
Males	Monday 4.30 - 6.30.pm. Tuesday 5.30 7.00.pm	
Females and Children	Tuesday 10.30 - 12.30.pm Thursday 4.30 - 6.30.pm	
	Patients Seen All ages All ages Males Females and	All ages  Every Thursday 10 - 12 noon  All ages  Tuesday 3-6.30.p.m. Thursday 4-6.30.p.m.  Males  Monday 4.30 - 6.30.pm.  Tuesday 5.307.00.pm  Females and Children  Tuesday 10.30-12.30.p



Clinic Patients Seen When Held Where Held Orthopaedic Pre-school and Every Tuesday Old Grammar Schoolchildren 10.am. - 12 noon School (Surgeons by Appoint-Huntingdon ment)

> (iii) The following service is provided under the Supplementary Ophthalmic Scheme of the National

Health Service: -Patients Seen

Clinic When Held Where Held Ophthalmic Pre-school and 1st and 3rd Fridays in month (by appoint- Old Grammar Schoolchildren ment axecpt in emergency) School Huntingdon 10.30.am. - 12 noon 2 - 3.pm.

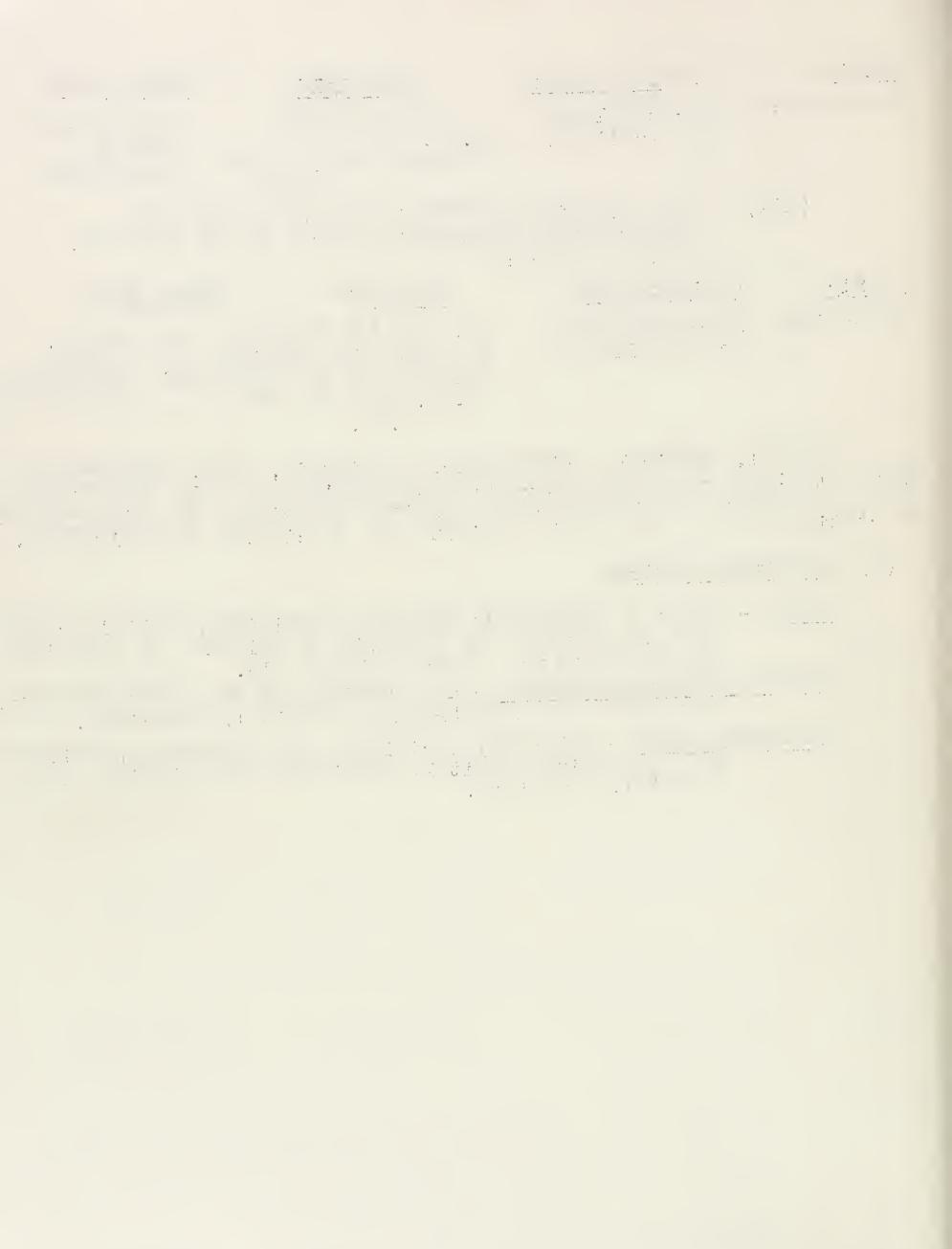
Medical, Surgical, Orthopaedic, Paediatric, Skin, Obstetrical Gynaecological and Dental Out-Patients Clinics are held at Huntingdon County Hospital and Andenbrooke's Hospital Cambridge, to which General Practitioners can refer their patients for specialist investigation.

#### (e) Hospital Services

Fever - Cases of infectious diseases requiring hosptial treatment are admitted to Isolation Hospitals, at Cambridge and Peterborough and the Isle of Ely.

General Hospital Services - are provided by the County Hospital Huntingdon and Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

Maternity Cases - Maternity facilities are provided at Primrose Lane Maternity Hospital, Huntingdon and at Mill Road Hospital, Cambridge.



#### PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS REPORT, 1960

#### HOUSING

#### Slum Clearance

Six families were rehoused during the year. Four of these were from individual unfit houses and two from the Pipers Lane - Eanring Street Clearance Area No.2. Twelve unfit houses have been demolished and eight have been made fit as a result of informal action. A survey of properties in Pipers Lane - London Street was undertaken and a programme of clearance and improvement agreed upon.

Approximately half of the 214 houses included in the report submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Govern — ment in 1954 have now been dealt with by demolition of some and improvement of others. The proposals already in hand will deal with a further 20 dwellings.

#### Council Houses

A further eight flats have been constructed and a flat in Island Hall has been converted into two small flats. The twenty dwellings commenced last year are nearing completion. Three cottages have been purchased for improvement.

The Council Housing List still contains 96 applicants as only three cases other than families from unfit houses have been offered accommodation. The demand is almost equal between those at present sharing accommodation and those in outdated or unfit accommodation.

#### Private Housing

The Tudor Estate Development has made headway and the total of 14 houses completed by private builders during the year includes 12 on this particular site.

#### Housing Improvements

The modernisation of 50 houses at Cambridge Villas is now complete leaving only eight Council owned houses still with -out the accepted modern amenities.

Eight Discretionary Grants and four Standard Grants were approved and all except two have been completed.

#### WATER SUPPLY

The daily consumption of water per head increased to nearly 32 gallons per day. This was due to the continued trend in the modernisation of properties in the Borough.

Twenty-five samples were taken during the year and found to be suitable for human consumtion although small readings were obtained on four of these samples. While an increase in the amount of chlorine used would have meant negative readings on all samples complaints would have then been received of over chlorination in some parts of the Borough.

#### SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The main system of sewerage has continued to give little trouble and the Cow Lane Disposal works has given rise to no complaints.

The sewer dykes were well cleaned early in the year but troubles have occurred with the old lenght of sewer still connected to the old system. A contract for the replacement of these sewers in Pipers Lane and St Anns Lane is shortly to be placed.

The bi-weekly collection of night soil continues from those premises still without water closets. Disposal is by flushing into the main sewers.

#### REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Collection of household refuse has continue to be made weekly. A tractor and trailer is manned by two men with occassional help. The same vehicle and men have been used to control the London Road and Cambridge Road tips.

The Cambridge Road tip has worked smoothly exceptfor a small fire on one occassion. The London Road tip is, close to the main road and unauthorised tipping is continually taking place.

#### STREET CLEANING

One fulltime and three part-time employees have swept County and Borough roads. Gully cleaning has been carried out by Council employees using the tumbril cart and scoop. The same employees have maintained verges and applied weed killer to paths and verges.

#### RIVER

The usual river bathing took place but the bathing station has been converted into football club dressing rooms.

No report of any case of disease attributable to bathing in the river has been received.

The river banks were cut regularly and treated with weed killer. Less insects were present and the Recreation Ground has become more popular than ever.

There were several floods at the end of the year and on two occassions the level 31' 2" A.O.D was reached. Normal level at this point is 26' 0". No houses were flooded and although the cara-van site was flooded the floors of all caravans in use were above water level.

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The sewerage pumps at the Avenue Pumping Station were controlled by hand when the river water entered part of the system.

#### CARAVAN SITES

The new Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act comes into force at the end of the year.

There are three individually licensed caravans and one licenced site for 22 caravans in London Street. The Boathouse Meadow site is continuing on a reduced scale pending a decision from the County Planning Authority.

#### PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT

The Council's driver is a trained operator and he has continued to make regular treatment of Council tips and other premises upon receipt of complaint. Very few premises have been inspected by routine survey under the Act but many premises have been inspected when visited primarily for other purposes.

#### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT

No slaughtering has taken place during the year. The proprietor of the only slaughterhouse in the Borough has notified the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food of his intention not to use the slaughterhouse again. The Council have agreed that the needs of the area can be met by the provision of suitable facilities at St Ives. This information was included in the report submitted to the Minster as required under the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958.

Six supplementary licences were issued under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations and eight premises were registered for the sale of Ice Cream. Eight samples of ice-creamwere taken and sent to the Public Health Laboratory for testing. The reports on all samples were satifactory.

#### GENERAL

The proportion of my time spent on Public Health duties has been increased again this year with advantage. The amount of time spent on the items reported upon has however left little time for the inspection of food premises. This is a facet of the Council's Public Health obligations which is due for some priority.

C.W. Parcell.,

M.A.P.H.I, A.R.S.H

Public Health Inspector.

#### SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

# Public Health Act, 1936

(a)	Numbe		pections ling re-ir			the			500
(b)	Number		ices serv	-		•••	• • •	• • •	502
		nformal	ICCS SELV	rea aur.	rug oue	e year	• • •	• • •	37
		tatutory	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	37
			ch notice	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	1
			CH HOLLCE	58					
		nformal	• • •	• • •	• • •	•. • •	• • •	• • •	37
	2. 50	tatutory	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	1
Housing	g Acts,	, <u>1936  </u>	1958						
(a)	Number	of ins	pections	made du Impro	uring to	the yea Grant	r (others etc.)	ner tha	410
(b)	Number	of not	ices serv	red duri	ing the	year.	•		
	1. Ir	oformal	• • •		o • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	13
	2. St	tatutory	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •		• • •	8
	Result	of suc	h notices						
	1. In	formal	• • •	• • •		• • •	• • •	• • •	13
	2. St	atutory	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	0 0' 0'	8
(c)	Houses	in Cle	arance Ar	eas					
	1. Fa	milies	rehoused	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	2
	2. Ho	uses de	molished	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	7
(d)	Indivi	dual un	fit house	S					
	1. Fa	milies	rehoused	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	4
	2. Ho	uses der	molished	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	5
	3. Ho	uses cl	osed	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	0
Improve	ment G	rants							
(e)	1. Nu	mber of	inspecti					th	
	2. Nu	mber of	imprapplicat	ovement	~	Way .	ies	• • •	98
				Discre	tionar	y Gran	ts	• • •	8
	T		applicat	Au .	dua .		• • •	• • •	8 Nil
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Duties	other than of Public Health nature		
	Total number of inspections carried out	• • •	797
Rent A	ct,1957		
(a)	Applications for Certificates of Disrepair	• • •	0
(b)	Decisions to issue Certificates of Disrepair	• • •	0
(c)	Undertaking accepted from Landlord under Paragrap 5 of 1st Schedule	h	0
(d)	Number of Certificates issued	• • •	0
Water			
(a)	Number of inspections made during the year	• • •	123
(b)	Number of notices served during the year	• • •	Nil
,	1. Informal	• • •	13
	2. Statutory	• • •	Nil
	Result of such notices		
	1. Informal	• • •	13
	2. Statutory	• • •	Nil
Food	and Drugs Acts & Food Hygiene Regulations		
(a)	Number of inspections made during the year		12
(b)			Nil
Facto	ries Act, 1937 - 1949		
(a)	Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are		
( )	enforced by the Local Authority		
	Number of Register	• • •	6
	Inspections	• • •	6 Nil
	Complied with	• • •	Nil
(b)	Factories not included in (a) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority		
	Number on Register	• • •	5
	Inspections	• • •	5 Nil
	Notices Complied with	• • •	Nil
(c)	Number of out-workers in August List required by		
•	Section 110 (1) (c)	• • •	2 Nil
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		Nil

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# Prevention of Damage by Pests Act

Numb	oer	of properts	ies inspect	ed as a result of		
			_	notifications		17
No.	of	properties	inspected	survey under Act		6
No.	of	properties	inspected	primarily for		
				other purposes	Approx	600
No.	of	properties	inspected	infested with rats		18
.cM	ΟÎ	properties	inspected	infested with mice		7
No.	of	properties	treated by	Local Authority		21

